

Exploring Boxes Activity

Potential Outcomes: Children explore the boxes(size, texture, shape)

Describe their ideas and actions. Experiment and predict. Fill and empty.

Fitting things together and taking them apart. Make models. Exploring different materials.

What you need:

- Empty boxes of various sizes e. g empty food boxes, egg boxes, shoe boxes jewellery boxes "etc"
- Include some boxes that are small enough to hold and put into other boxes

What you do:

Introduce the activity- "Look at all these boxes, I wonder what we could do with them?"

Play alongside and comment on the child's actions/ ideas/copy their ideas- respond to their request for help for example: to build towers, fit boxes into bigger boxes, fill and empty using smaller items that can be added to extend the play. The adult might ask questions — "How can we get this one to balance on top" "I wonder which box this one will fit into"

"This is a shiny smooth box; can you find another one like this"

When children lose interest either add some new materials to extend activity or ask children to help tidy materials away to use at another time.

Ask children what they would like to use with the boxes the next time.

More ideas:

Add a variety of different small items for filling and emptying e.g. bottle tops/ jam jar lids "etc"

Add other types of materials: kitchen roll tubes/different types of paper "etc"

Materials to use to make models-glue/ masking tape